

In the Drawings:

A Drawing Transmittal and 5 Replacement Sheets (marked as such) with amended Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are enclosed. Reference characters A, 11' and 12' have been added to structures originally shown in Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. The added reference characters do not involve any new matter. The original sheet with Fig. 1 remains as is. Approval and entry of the Replacement Sheets with Figs. 2 to 6 are respectfully requested.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]

REMARKS:

- 1) The specification and new independent claim 14 have been revised to more clearly describe and claim the alternative embodiment originally disclosed on page 6 lines 7 to 9 and Figs. 2 to 6. In this alternative embodiment of the invention, the centering pin or locating pin 12' has a longitudinal axis extending at an angle to a drilling axis. In the first embodiment shown in Fig. 1 the drilling axis and the pin axis coincide.
- 2) The word "same" at the end of line 8 on page 6 of the original specification could be misleading, because in the embodiments of Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 the guide element (11) actually has two guide channels, namely one for the drill bit (DB) and one for the locating pin (12'). In the amended Figs. 2 to 6 the guide channel 11 is for the drill bit (DB) and the guide hole (11') is for the locating pin (12'). The guide channel (11) and the guide hole (11') extend at an angle relative to each other as shown in Figs. 2 to 6. The above proposed more detailed description of the just outlined features of the alternative embodiment in the specification is originally supported by Figs. 2 to 6. Therefore, the emphasis of this alternative embodiment in the specification and in new independent claim 14 does not contain any new matter.
- 3) New claim 14 is based on the "currently amended" claim 1 of the Response dated May 8, 2006. However, new claim 14 does not include that the guide element is an adapter and comprises a

locking device. Instead, new claim 14 defines the drilling axis and the pin axis which extends at an angle to the drilling axis. Since original Figs. 2 to 6 disclose this feature, now claim 14 does not contain any new matter. New dependent claims 15 to 22 are based on the original claims as follows:

New claims	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
previous claims	1 + Figs. 2 to 6	3 + 4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12

- 4) The rejection of claims 1, 5, 7 and 12 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Silver (US Patent 2,418,956) taken in the light of the disclosure of Mackey et al. (US Patent 4,027,992) is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.
- 5) In the alternative embodiment of the invention as originally disclosed in the specification at page 6 lines 7 to 9 and in Figs. 2 to 6, the guide element has two holes. One hole is the guide channel (11) for the drill bit DB. The other hole (11') is for the locating pin (12'). The two holes extend at an angle relative to each other as shown in Figs. 2 to 6. Therefore, the longitudinal axis of the locating pin 12' and the drilling axis defined by the drill bit DB also extend at the same angle relative to each other as seen in Figs. 2 to 6. The movement of the locating pin (12') is originally shown by an unmarked double headed arrow. That arrow is now marked with the letter A.

6) Neither Silver nor Mackey et al. disclose much less suggest such a feature. Silver shows that the locating pin (17) prior to drilling extends coaxially in the drilling bit guide hole (19). When locating and clamping of the work piece (27) is completed, the locating pin (17) of Silver must be completely removed from the hole (19) to make room for the drill bit (26). Such a structure does not suggest positioning a locating pin (12') in a separate guide hole (11') at an angle to the drilling axis for the purpose of avoiding the complete removal of the locating pin once locating and clamping of the work pieces is completed. This is so even in view of Mackey et al. which does not disclose anything regarding the positioning of a locating pin at an angle relative to the drill bit. Mackey et al. was cited only for showing an adapter which is no longer part of new claim 14. For these reasons, the rejection cannot be applied against present new claim 14.

7) Similar considerations apply to the dependent claims 15 to 22 because the secondary references applied in the Final Office Action neither disclose nor suggest the features now more clearly claimed in claims 15 to 22.

8) The rejection of claims 6, 8, 9, 12, 13 under 35 USC 103(a) is respectfully traversed for the following reasons. British Patent Publication GB 2,288,356 was cited for disclosing a clamping mechanism with a clamping screw and a guide channel (2) for the drill bit. The guide channel axis (2A) is coaxial with the axis (4A) of the clamping screw (4). Therefore, in this respect the

GB reference does not disclose more than Silver. Further, a screw drive for a drill clamp does not suggest a piston cylinder drive. Regarding claim 10, an independent protection for drilling chip removal by suction is not intended.

9) Approval and entry of the "replacement" drawing sheets and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, including all present claims 14 to 22, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Applicant

WGF:he/4604

Enclosures:

Transmittal Cover letter

Continued Examination Request (RCE)

Formal Drawing Transmittal

5 Replacement Drawing Sheets

postcard

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I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail, in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

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